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Liberty and Union, Now and Forever,
One and Inseparable.



37th Congress—First Session.
WASHINGTON, DEC. 2.
SENATE.

Vice President called the Senate to order at
12 o'clock. About 40 members answered to
their names.

Senate concurred in the action of the House
for the appointment of a joint committee to
wait on the President, and appointed Messrs.
Hale, Tremain and Latham.

Mr. Tremain (Ill.) gave notice that he
would introduce a bill to confiscate the property
of the rebels and to give freedom to persons in
the rebel slave States.

Mr. Wilkinson (Maine) gave notice of a
bill to abolish the distinction between the regular
and volunteer forces.

The committee appointed to wait on the
President, reported that he would communicate
his message to Congress tomorrow noon. Adj.
HOUSE.

Roll was called by the Clerk, and 114 mem-
bers answered to their names, including Messrs.
Sargent and Plumer of Cal.; Hooper of Mass.;
Wilson of Iowa; Bernhisel, delegate from Utah;
and Cradelaugh, delegate from Nevada.

Mr. Davis of Mass. moved Mr. Maynard of
Tenn. be sworn as a member of the House,
from Tennessee.

Mr. Stevens of Pennsylvania said Mr. May-
nard may have been properly elected, but all
know the fact that that State was as far as it
could be of the Union. As there were no other
similar cases, he thought the subject should
be referred to committee on elections.

Mr. Davis thought this an exception to the
rule, as Mr. Maynard was regularly elected by
a large majority at the August election, and
before Tennessee had taken any steps to secede
from the Union. Besides, the proper certificate
was here.

Mr. Stevens withdrew his motion.

Mr. Maynard was sworn in.

A committee was appointed to join the
Senate Committee to wait on the President and
inform him that a quorum of both Houses was
ready for business.

Mr. Hickman of Pennsylvania presented a
certificate of the Governor of the State of New
York dated January 1st, 1862, in relation to
the election of Mr. Foster, and moved that the papers
be read.

Mr. Vallandigham of Ohio raised the question of
order. The claim of Mr. Foster was referred to
an extra session to the Committee on
elections.

Mr. Hickman said this was a new question,
different from that of the former election.

The Speaker overruled Mr. Vallandigham's
point. Mr. Stevens of Pennsylvania said no
harm could be done by a reference. On his
motion the case was referred to the committee
on elections.

Mr. Watts, delegate from New Mexico, was
sworn in.

Mr. Blair of Virginia, successor of Mr.
Carlisle, was sworn and also qualified.

Mr. Richardson of Illinois moved that Mr.
Sagar of Virginia should be sworn.

Mr. Davis of Massachusetts desired that the
case should be referred.

Mr. Richardson earnestly argued that Mr.
Sagar be sworn in. The people of Acco-
ma and Northampton counties should not be denied
a representation in the House, especially as
they had laid down their arms which they had
taken up against the Federal Government. All
the forms of law had been complied with, and
under the proclamation of the Provisional Gov-
ernment of Virginia.

After some debate the subject was referred to
the committee on elections.

Mr. Biddle of Pennsylvania, Barnham of
Connecticut, Bennett, delegate from Colorado,
and Wallace, delegate from Washington Terri-
tory, were sworn in.

Mr. Calcutt of Maryland presented the memo-
rial of Mr. Beach of Pennsylvania asking to be
admitted to a seat in the House. Referred.

A memorial was presented asking that Mr.
Lowe be admitted as an additional member from
Cal. Referred.

Mr. Lovejoy of Ill. offered a joint resolution
tendering the thanks of Congress to Capt. Wilkes
for his arrest of the traitors Mason and Sledge.

Mr. Elgeron of Ohio moved a substitute that
the President be requested to present Capt. Wilkes
with a gold medal, with suitable emblems and
devices expressive of the high sense entertained
for him by Congress in his prompt arrest of the
traitors Mason and Sledge.

The substitute was rejected and the original
resolution adopted.

Mr. Blair of Mo. offered the following as a
question of privilege:

Resolved, That W. Roid, a member of the
House from the 5th Congressional district of
Mo., having taken up arms against the Gov-
ernment of the United States is hereby expelled
from the House, and that the speaker notify
the Governor of Missouri of the fact.

The resolution was passed.

Mr. Colfax of Ind. offered the following:

Whereas, Col. Michael Corcoran, who was
taken prisoner on the battlefield of Manassas,
has, after suffering other indignities, been con-
fined by the rebel authorities in the cell of a
convicted felon, therefore,

Resolved, That the President of the United
States be requested to similarly confine Mes-
srs. Mason, Sledge, and Roid, now in custody at Fort
Warren, until Col. Corcoran be treated as the
United States have treated all prisoners taken
by them in battle. [Applause in the galleries.]

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Elliott of Mass. offered the following:

Resolved, by the House of Representatives of
the United States of America,
1st. That in behalf of the people of these
States, we do solemnly declare that the war in
which we are now engaged against the insur-
gent forces now in arms against the Gov't, has
for its object the suppression of such rebellion
and the re-establishment of the rightful author-
ity of the national constitution and laws over
the entire extent of our common country.

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NO. 50.

as to make it apply to the slaves of disloyal
citizens.

On motion of Mr. Stevens of Pennsylvania
the further consideration of the resolution was
postponed until to-morrow week, in order that
it may be discussed and amendments submitted.

He was in favor of the main features of the
proposition, but desired modification.

Mr. Campbell of Pennsylvania gave notice
that he would call up the following on next
Thursday:

Resolved, That in legislation to meet the
exigencies of the rebellion, Congress should con-
fiscate the property, slaves included, of all re-
bels, and protect the property and rights of the
constitution and laws of all loyal citizens.

Mr. Stevens of Pennsylvania submitted the
following for further consideration:

Whereas, Slavery has caused the present re-
bellion in the United States; and whereas there
can be no solid and permanent peace in this
republic so long as that institution exists with
in it, and whereas slaves are now used by the
rebels as an essential means of protecting the
war, and whereas by the law of nations it is
right to liberate the slaves of an enemy to
weaken his power, therefore be it enacted by
the Senate and House of Representatives of the
United States in Congress assembled, that the
President be requested to declare free, and to
order freedom to all slaves who shall leave their
masters or aid in quelling the rebellion.

2d. And he further resolved, that the U. S.
pledge the faith of the nation, and make full
and complete compensation to all loyal citizens who
are or shall remain active in supporting the
Union for all the losses they may sustain by virtue
of this institution.

Mr. Stevens gave notice of his intention to
introduce a bill repealing certain laws creating
ports of entry.

Congress of N. Y. offered the following,
which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Sec'y of War be request-
ed, if not incompatible with the public inter-
ests, to report what measures have been taken
to ascertain who was responsible for the disas-
trous movement at Bull Run.

A resolution was adopted requesting the
Secretary of War to furnish copies of all con-
tracts by the Quartermaster's department for
leading disabled horses during the winter, giving
names, names of contractors, number of
horses given out, and whether the contracts
were made after public notice.

Mr. Fenton of New York from the joint com-
mittee reported they had waited on the Presi-
dent and he desired them to state that he would
send in his message to the House at 12 o'clock
tomorrow.

Mr. Odell of New York submitted the fol-
lowing, which was adopted:

Whereas, Col. Alfred M. Wood was taken
prisoner at the battle of Bull Run, has now by
rebel authorities been confined to confinement
in a felon's prison and is to be treated as
prisoner convicted of a heinous crime, there-
fore

Resolved, That the President be respectfully
requested to order John Sledge to the same
character of prison and to same treatment as
Col. Wood be treated as United States have
used all prisoners taken in battle.

Following notices of bills were given.

By Mr. Washburn of Ill. to establish a post
road from the city of New York to city of
Washington.

By Mr. Van Wyck, a bill to establish and
construct a military and postal road from Wash-
ington city, D. C., to city of New York.

Mr. Bernhisel presented the constitution
which was passed by the convention of dele-
gates assembled at Great Salt Lake city, Utah,
in March last, accompanied by a memorial ask-
ing Congress to admit that territory into the
Union on an equal footing with the original States.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Fellow-Citizens of the Senate
and House of Representatives:

Amid unprecedented political troubles we
have met again in grateful thanksgiving for the
usual good health and most abundant harvests.

You will not be surprised to learn that in
the peculiar exigencies of the times, our inter-
course with foreign nations has been attended
with peculiar difficulties, chiefly turning upon
the question of domestic affairs.

A disloyal portion of the American people
have, during the whole year, been engaged in
an attempt to divide and destroy the Union. A
nation which endures a civil war, and a nation
which is exposed to the prospect of a civil war,
and one party, if not both, are sure, sooner or later,
to invite foreign intervention.

Nations thus tempted to interfere are not
always able to resist the temptation. To the
United States, however, this temptation has been
unusually strong, and the result has been un-
fortunate and injurious to those adopting them.

The disloyal citizens of the United States
who have offered the ruin of our country, in
return for the aid and comfort which they have
invoked abroad, have received less patronage
and encouragement than they probably expected.

If it were not for the fact that the insur-
gents have secured arms, foreign military aid,
and in this case disregarding all moral, social and
treaty obligations, would act solely and selfishly
for the most speedy restoration of commerce,
including especially the acquisition of cotton,
those nations appear as yet not to have seen
their way to their object more directly or clearly
through the destruction than through the
preservation of the Union.

If we could dare to believe that foreign na-
tions are actuated by no higher principle than
this, I am quite sure a second argument could
be made to show them that they can reach their
aim more readily and easily by aiding to
crush this rebellion, than by giving encourage-
ment to it.

The principal lever relied upon by the in-
surgents for exciting foreign nations to hostil-
ity against us, as already witnessed, is the em-
barrassment of commerce.

Those nations, however, it is not improb-
able that they are aware of the fact that the Union
which made as well our foreign as our domestic
commerce. They can scarcely have failed to
perceive that the effort for disunion produces
the existing difficulty, and that one strong
national protest would be more effective than
any extensive and reliable commerce, than can the
same nation, broken into hostile fragments.

It is my purpose to review our discussions
with foreign States, because whatever might be
their wishes or dispositions, the integrity of
our country and the ability of our govern-
ment, depends not upon them, but upon the
loyalty, virtue, patriotism, and intelligence of
the American people. The correspondence it-
self, with its reservations, is herewith
transmitted. I venture to hope it will appear
that we have practiced prudence and liberality
towards foreign powers, averting causes of
irritation, and with firmness maintaining our
own rights and honor.

It is apparent that here as in every
other State, foreign dangers necessarily
attend domestic difficulties. I recommend that
adequate and ample measures be adopted for
maintaining the public defenses on every side;
while under this general recommendation, pro-
vision for defending our coast line readily oc-
curs to the mind.

I also in the same connection ask the at-
tention of Congress to our great lakes and rivers.
It is believed that some fortifications, with ar-
tillery, and a few troops, would be of great im-
portance to the national defense and preservation.
I ask attention to the views of the Secretary
of War, expressed in his report upon the same
subject.

I deem it of importance that the loyal re-
gions of East Tennessee and Western North
Carolina, should be connected with Kentucky
and other faithful parts of the Union by rail-
roads. I therefore recommend that a military
measure that Congress provide for the con-
struction of such a road as speedily as possi-
ble. Kentucky will no doubt co-operate, and

through her Legislature make the most judi-
cious selection of a line. The northern rail-
road must connect with some existing railroad,
and whether the route shall be from Lexing-
ton or Louisville to the Cumberland Gap, or
from Lebanon to the same, is a matter of
locality, and in some still different
one, can easily be determined.

Kentucky and the General Government co-
operating, the work can be completed in a very
short time, and when done will be not only
of vast present usefulness, but also a valuable
permanent improvement, worth its cost in all
the future.

Some treaties designed chiefly for the inter-
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importance, have been negotiated and will
be submitted to the Senate for their consid-
eration. Although we have failed to induce
some of the commercial powers to adopt a desir-
able amendment of the rigors of the maritime
war, we have removed all obstructions from
this humane reform, except such as are merely
of a temporary nature.

The revenue from all sources, including loans,
for the financial year ending on the 30th of
June, 1861, was \$86,835,902.40; the expendi-
ture for the same period, including payments
on account of the public debt, were \$84,578,
034.47, leaving a balance in the Treasury on
the 30th of July of \$2,257,867.93, or a sur-
plus of the financial year ending 30th Sept.,
1861.

The receipts from all sources, including the
balance of July 1st, were \$11,409,979.97;
the expenses \$10,238,733.09, leaving a balance
on the 1st of Oct., 1861, of \$1,171,246.88.

Estimates for the remaining three-quarters
of a year, and for the financial year of 1863,
together with reviews of the ways and means
of the Government, are herewith submitted. They
will be submitted to you by the Secretary of
the Treasury.

I refer with pleasure to those portions of his
report which make allusions to the creditabil-
ity of discipline, and the high moral and intelli-
gent character of the troops, and to the excellent sanitary condition
of the entire army. The recommendation of
the Secretary for an organization of the militia
upon a uniform basis, is a subject of vital im-
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and is commended to the serious attention of
Congress.

The large addition to the regular army, in
connection with the defection that has so con-
siderably diminished the number of its members,
and the consequent importance to its recom-
mendation for increasing the corps of Cadets to
the greatest capacity of the Military Academy.

By mere omission, I presume, Congress has
failed to provide chaplains for the hospitals
occupied by the volunteers. This subject was
brought to my notice, and I was induced to
draw up the form of a letter, one copy of which,
properly addressed, has been delivered to each
of the persons, and at the dates respectively
named, to the several hospitals containing a list
of the names of the chaplains, and herewith
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the resources of the loyal people, and to be-
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the 30th of July of \$2,257,867.93, or a sur-
plus of the financial year ending 30th Sept.,
1861.

The receipts from all sources, including the
balance of July 1st, were \$11,409,979.97;
the expenses \$10,238,733.09, leaving a balance
on the 1st of Oct., 1861, of \$1,171,246.88.

Estimates for the remaining three-quarters
of a year, and for the financial year of 1863,
together with reviews of the ways and means
of the Government, are herewith submitted. They
will be submitted to you by the Secretary of
the Treasury.

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